

Primary source exploration:

- About Primary Sources
- About Wikipedia and Citations
- Why these texts?

- 1) Read the text with you partner
- 2) Identify any important terms and important references to history
- 3) Identify important references to *Zionism* as an idea.

From the Israeli Declaration of Independence as cited by Wikipedia: (1948)

The Land of Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people. Here their spiritual, religious and political identity was shaped. Here they first attained to statehood, created cultural values of national and universal significance and gave to the world the eternal Book of Books.

After being forcibly exiled from their land, the people kept faith with it throughout their Dispersion and never ceased to pray and hope for their return to it and for the restoration in it of their political freedom.

Impelled by this historic and traditional attachment, Jews strove in every successive generation to re-establish themselves in their ancient homeland. In recent decades they returned in their masses.^[36]

Harris, J. (1998) [The Israeli Declaration of Independence](#) The Journal of the Society for Textual Reasoning, Vol. 7

From Balfour Declaration as cited by Wikipedia: (1917)

James Balfour (Foreign Minister of England)

His Majesty's government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.^[50]

Yapp, M.E. (1987-09-01). *The Making of the Modern Near East 1792-1923*. Harlow, England: Longman. p. 290. ISBN 978-0-582-49380-3.

From Herzl's writings "The Jewish State" as cited by Wikipedia: (1897)

The Jewish question persists wherever Jews live in appreciable numbers. Wherever it does not exist, it is brought in together with Jewish immigrants. We are naturally drawn into those places where we are not persecuted, and our appearance there gives rise to persecution. This is the case, and will inevitably be so, everywhere, even in highly civilised countries—see, for instance, France—so long as the Jewish question is not solved on the political level. The unfortunate Jews are now carrying the seeds of anti-Semitism into England; they have already introduced it into America.^[14]

Herzl, *Der Judenstaat*, cited by C.D. Smith, *Israel and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*, 2001, 4th ed., p. 53